

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/055,396

Examiner

Tom V. Sheng

Applicant(s)

LONOCE ET AL

Art Unit

~~2673~~ 2677**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 4/8/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 22 and 23.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 4/8/2005, 1/22/2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney Dicran Halajian on 7/18/2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1:

line 2, insert --over a second portion-- after "of a first portion";

line 7, insert --the first and second portions of-- after "illuminating"; and

line 10, substitute --the second portion-- for "a second portion".

Claim 8:

line 2, insert --over a second portion-- after "of a first portion";

line 7, insert --the first and second portions of-- after "illuminating"; and

line 10, substitute --the second portion-- for "a second portion".

Claim 9:

line 2, insert --over a second portion-- after "of a first portion";

line 7, insert --the first and second portions of-- after "illuminating"; and

line 10, substitute --the second portion-- for "a second portion".

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Claim 13:

line 4, insert --and a second portion-- after "on a first portion";

line 7, insert --of said first and second portions-- after "its light output";

line 9, insert --the control information indicating to a-- before "video amplitude-modifying means";

line 9, substitute --that a decrease in-- for "for decreasing"; and

line 11, insert --is requested-- after "said second portion".

Claim 15:

line 6, insert --over a second part-- after "first part";

line 8, insert --the first and second parts of-- after "illuminating"; and

line 10, substitute --the second part-- for "a second part".

Claim 16:

line 2, insert --over a second portion-- after "of a first portion";

line 4, substitute --, -- for ", and";

line 5, substitute --, -- for ", and";

line 6, insert --the first and second portions of-- after "illuminating"; and

line 9, substitute --the second portion-- for "a second portion".

Claim 17: Please cancel.

Claim 18:

line 2, substitute --first portion relative to a second portion-- for "portion";

line 9, insert --over said first portion and said second portion-- after "illumination";

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and

line 11, substitute --on said second portion-- for "outside said portion".

Claim 20: Please cancel.

Claim 23:

line 1, insert --brightness-- after "comprising";

line 2, insert --over a second part-- after "of a first part";

line 3, substitute --said brightness means-- for "said means";

line 4, insert --said first part and said second part of-- after "to illuminate";

line 5, insert --at least said second part of-- after "for display on";

line 7, insert --over said first part and said second part-- after "said illumination";

and

line 9, substitute --said second part-- for "a second part".

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 22 and 23 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The claimed invention is directed to a liquid crystal display capable of enhancing the brightness of a certain portion of the display relative to area of display outside the portion, by increasing illumination to the display and reducing the amplitude of the video signal of the area outside of the portion.

Independent claims 1, 8, 9, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 22 and 23 all identify the uniquely distinct and novel features of increasing the brightness of a portion/part of the display by

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increasing the illumination/lighting to the display and decreasing an amplitude of video signal displayed outside the portion/part of the display.

Hayashi et al. (JP 02133884) teach that as illumination deteriorates, image signal is corrected accordingly. Hartung (WO 3034719) teaches increasing the magnitude of image signal when illumination decreases. Nagatsu et al. (JP 08237579) teach as amplitude of video signal becomes low, both illumination and amplitude could be increased. Mikado (US 4,654,711) teaches changing the color of window when made active by changing corresponding signal. Hunter (US 2003/0146897) teaches a backlight that can be varied across the display. In particular, the backlight can be made brighter for an active window area. None of them teaches increasing the illumination/lighting to the display and decreasing amplitude of video signal displayed outside the portion/part of the display.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

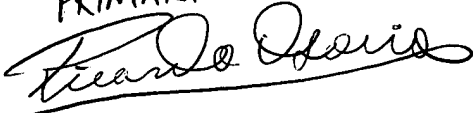
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tom V. Sheng whose telephone number is (571) 272-7684. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00am - 6:00pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala can be reached on (571) 272-7681. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Tom Sheng
August 1, 2005

Ricardo Osorio
PRIMARY EXAMINER




Approved
15
8/1/05

1/3

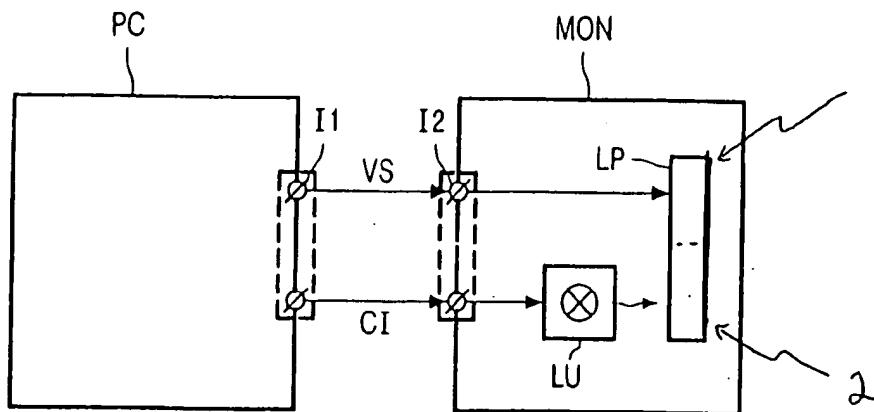


FIG. 1

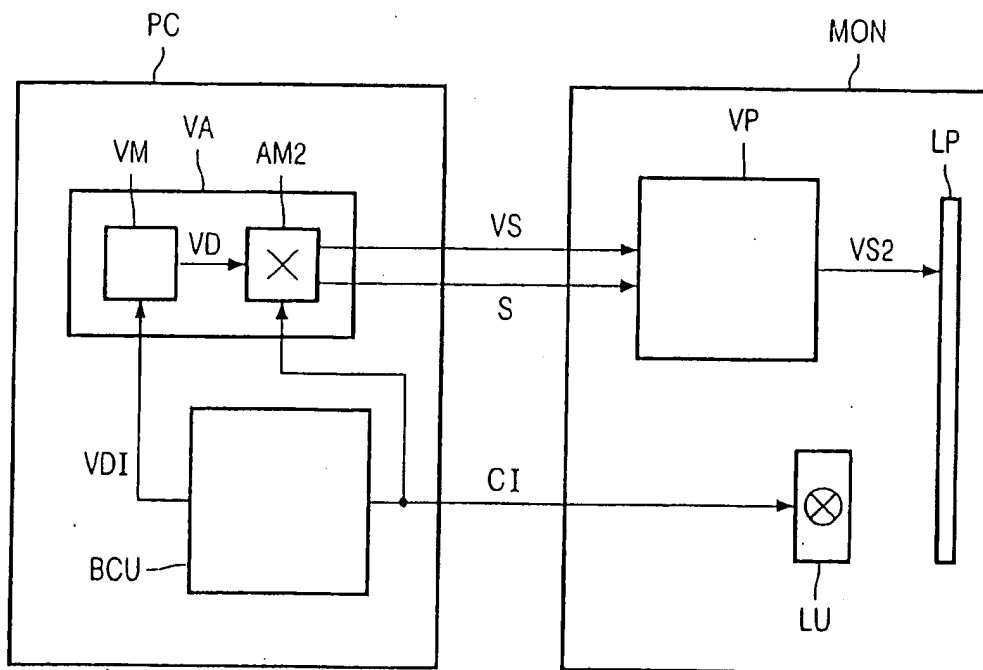


FIG. 3